Conference on "some priority issues of Environmental Protection"

343. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two-day conference on "Some Priority Issues of Environmental Protection" was held on the 17th and 18th September, 1990, at New Delhi;

(b) if so, what issues were identified at the Conference to contain environmental degradation; and

(c) what strategy was evolved to tackle the same effectively and what programmes have been laid down and taken up by Government in the light thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The issues identified for discussion at the Conference were (1) Biodegradable substitutes for Agro-Chemicals and Fertilizers (2) Enhancing the Productivity of Wastelands (3) Environmental Problems of Mining (4) Management and Disposal of Hazardous Chemicals and (5) Energy Alternatives for India. The Conference discussed the nature and intensity of the priority issues of environmental protection in identified areas and analysed the legal, institutional and scientific aspects to evolve an integrated perspective in these areas. The recommendations of the Conference have provided an input to various policies of Government, and have helped in framing India's stand on key environmental issues in the international fora.

Improvement in DTC Bus Services

344. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that increase in DTC fares, increase in DTC fleet and rationalisation of DTC routes can go a long way in saving fuel by the people and giving respite to the DTC and commuters;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken/propose to take in these matters;

(c) the time by when Government propose to review the present policy of "earn and keep" of DTC vis-a-vis private buses under its operation so as to attract more private buses for public transport; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to streamline the administration and management of DTC and to check pilferage in DTC?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Proposal for revision of DTC fare is under consideration of the Government. Further, during the year 1990-91, in addition to the sanction given to DTC for purchase of 506 buses on replacement account, proposal for procurement of additional 34 buses under replacement account is also under consideration. The rationalisation of DTC routes is a continuous process and is consistently reviewed by the Management of DTC.

(c) Review of the present policy of "earn and keep" of DTC vis-a-vis private buses can be undertaken only after DTC fare structures are revised.

(d) Government continuously review the administration and management of DTC with a view to streamlining the same and to check pilferage in DTC.

Mobile Checking Staff of D.T.C.

345. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the behaviour of the mobile checking staff of the Delhi Transport Corporation towards commuters is very rough and unpleasant;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken against the erring staff in the recent past;

(c) whether Government propose to issue necessary instructions to the mobile checking staff to behave properly with the commuters; particularly with elders; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) to (d) The behaviour of the Mobile Checking Staff of the DTC towards commuters is by and large courteous. Whenever any specific allegation of dis-courteous behavour is brought to the notice of the DTC Management, appropriate action is taken. The Mobile Checking Staff are instructed by the DTC Management to behave properly with all commuters.

Projects of Kerala pending clearance

346. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the projects and schemes pending with his Ministry for clearance from the State of Kerala and the details of the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): While the State Government is to comply to the observations of the Central Water Commission on Idamalyar Irrigation Projects, the modified report on Kuriarkutty Karapara Multipurpose Project has been received recently.

Project of Kerala pending clearance

347. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

The projects and schemes from Kerala pending clearance from his Ministry and the action taken on each case so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): The projects and schemes of Kerala pending clearance in the Ministry of Surface Transport and the action taken on them is given in the Statement.

Statement

Projects and Schemes of Kerala pending Clearance in the Ministry of surface Transport and the action taken on them

S. No.	Name of Projects/Scheme	Present position
1	Four laning and strengthening of Alwaye (K. 332) to Sherthalai (387) of NH-47 under Asian Development Bank Assistance package-II	The Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) memo circulated to the Appraising Agencies.
2	Land acquisition of phase-III IV of Quilon by-pass	The EFC memo is being finalised.
3	Construction of Combined by-pass of Trivendrum Neyyattinkara phase-I from CRO to 5600 M	The estimate is under process.
4	Calicut by-pass phase-II land acquisition	The EFC meeting was held on 12-2-91. The minutes of the meeting is awaited.
5	Construction of Itnk Road Phase-II for connecting Cochin port to Cochin by-pass.	EFC memo has been finalised. Comments from appraising agencies have also been attended to and a administrative cum FA note is under finalisatton in consultation with the Finance Wing of this Ministry.
6	Construction of Varapazha bridge.	Processing of the estimate is held up as the acquisition of land required for the project has not yet been completed by the State.